

**Matthew 5:27-30 (NKJV)**

27 “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’

28 But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

29 If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.”

**Why aren't there more one-eyed, one-handed Christians?**

1. Distinction (Matthew 5:27-28)

*“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ **But I say...**”*

**We must rely on the Holy Spirit to give us illumination and understanding of the Word of God, and not allow ourselves to be deceived by desiring to find understanding based on our own human wisdom, philosophies and desires.**

2. Desire (Matthew 5:28)

*“But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman **to lust for her** has **already** committed adultery with her **in his heart.**”*

In God's eyes, adultery has **already** taken place **before** it has taken place.

3. Desperation (Matthew 5:29-30)

*“If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.  
And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.”*

What do I need to **cut off** that is causing me to risk fellowship with Christ?

**Romans 7 (NIV)**

18 I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.

19 For I do not do the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing...

21 So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me...

24 What a wretched man I am! Who will **rescue** me from this body of death?

25 **Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

**We have to go further than self-mutilation... WE HAVE TO DIE.**